

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 13, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendment to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 9-16 were allowed. As will be discussed below, therefore, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Satyanarayana (U.S. Patent No. 5,898,733). As noted above, claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice.

In that claims 9-16 have been allowed, it is respectfully submitted that this amendment is sufficient to place the application in condition for allowance and issue.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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